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COMICS

CAPTAIN AMERICA, IRON MAN, THE BLACK PANTHER!

EXCALIBUR[®] III



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SCOTT EDWARDS - HOLDREGE 9-92



THE POWERFUL CAPTAIN BRITAIN, THE SHAPE-CHANGING MEGGAN, THE INTANGIBLE SHADOWCAT, THE TELEPORTING NIGHTCRAWLER, THE MYSTERIOUS PHOENIX, THE EVER-UNPREDICTABLE WIDGET AND LOCKHEED THE DRAGON FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THEIR TRAGIC PASTS, THEY HAVE BANNED TOGETHER TO FIGHT A MODERN DAY CRUSADE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! STAN LEE PRESENTS...

EXCALIBUR

CONTRARY TO
POPULAR BELIEF...

...SHADOWCAT WOULD TELL YOU THAT
THERE AREN'T A GREAT MANY
PERKS TO BEING A MEMBER OF
EXCALIBUR, ENGLAND'S PREMIER
SUPER TEAM.

AFTER BREAKFAST YOU'RE BATTLING
TO SAVE THE WORLD.

SOMETIME BEFORE LUNCH YOU'RE
IN THE MIDDLE OF A
DIMENSIONAL CIVIL WAR.

NINETY-THREE
DEGREES IN THE MIDDLE
OF OCTOBER?

AHH, WAKANDA--
YOU HAVE TO
LOVE IT!

GNAW
GNASH
GNAW

GAUMPH

ADMITTEDLY, THOUGH, EVERY
ONCE IN A GREAT WHILE--

-- YOU'RE AFFORDED THE
OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE
TIME OUT TO SMELL THE
LUCHA SEEMANNII!

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ENTER...
THE

ANTHROPER

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TOM DEFALCO, EDITOR IN CHIEF

EXCALIBUR CREATED BY CLAREMONT & DAVIS

BRIAN, I DON'T MEAN TO
BE RUDE...

BUT I THINK
THESE PEOPLE ARE GOING
TO USE ME AS A VIRGIN
SACRIFICE.

I THINK
YOU'RE SAFE
ON BOTH
COUNTS,
LUV.

HALF THE REASON
I INVITED YOU
ALONG ON THIS TRIP IS
TO BROADEN YOUR WORLD
VIEW, MEGGAN.

THERE IS MORE TO
AFRICA... TO ITS PEOPLE...
THAN YOU'RE USED TO
SEEING ON A LATE NIGHT
SHOWING OF TARZAN AND
THE WARRIOR WOMEN.

TAKE THIS NATION OF WAKANDA AS THE MOST EXTREME EXAMPLE.

ONE OF THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS OF THE DARK CONTINENT--

--THE WAKANDANS ARE ARGUABLY THE MOST TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED PEOPLE ON EARTH.

THEIR CHIEF NATURAL RESOURCE IS VIBRANIUM--THE RAREST OF PRECIOUS METALS.

THE MAN UPON THE THRONE--

--IS PRINCE T'CHALLA--

--THE BLACK PANTHER!

SALUTATIONS, BRIAN BRADDOCK, ON BEHALF OF MY PEOPLE!!! I WELCOME YOU TO OUR HUMBLE AFRICAN TRIBE.

THE PLEASURE IS OURS, BLACK PANTHER.

ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE! THAT'S A WRAP!

SEEYA BACK AT THE CLUBHOUSE.

MOMMA?

YOU WERE RAD, DYLAN.

I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET MY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, MEGGAN.

A "MINISTRATIVE" WKA--?

IT IS OBVIOUS YOUR SENSE OF HUMOR IS PARALLELED ONLY BY YOUR BEAUTY...

...WHICH IS WITHOUT EQUAL.

PRINCE T'CHALLA,
I MUST APOLOGIZE
FOR MY BROTHER'S
ABSENCE.

AS YOU ARE AWARE,
BRADDOCK ENTERPRISES
WAS JAMIE'S SOLE PROVINCE
FOR YEARS.

THAT YOU ARE FULFILLING
HIS RESPONSIBILITIES IS AN
HONOR TO YOUR TITLE AS
AN ENGLISH GENTLEMAN.

EXCUSE
ME FOR MY EYE
DENSITY--



--BUT BEING AS
WE'RE INSIDE
A LIVE
VOLCANO...

...SHOULDN'T WE
BE BURSTING INTO
FLAMES ANY SECOND?

ANYWHERE
ELSE, PERHAPS
BUT VIBRANIUM IS
NOT THE ONLY
NATURAL WONDER
OF WAKANDA.

THIS
GEOTHERMAL
ANOMALY-- A
"GOLD VOLCANO"
-- IS BUT
ANOTHER.

THAT IS WHY OUR
SCIENTISTS ARE
STUDYING IT
TWENTY-FOUR
HOURS A DAY.

AND HERE I THOUGHT THEY'D
JUST COME INSIDE TO ESCAPE
THE HUMIDITY IN THE
JUNGLE.

TRUST ME, BRIAN,
A FEW DAYS IN THIS
PARADISE WE CALL
HOME--

--AND YOU'LL
BE SWINGING
FROM VINES WITH
THE REST OF
US.

#CLASP



-- FROM THE UNITED STATES,
THIS IS...

CAPTAIN
AMERICA

AND

IRON
MAN

GREETINGS,
PEOPLE.

MY PLEASURE.

AGAIN, ONE WOULD THINK
THAT LIFE AS A MEMBER
OF EXCALIBUR...

--MIGHT LEAVE BRIAN
AND MEGGAN A BIT...
Jaded, IN THE PRE-
SENCE OF OTHER
SUPER HEROES.

BUT WHEN THEY ARE
THREE OF THE WORLD'S
FOREMOST AVENGERS...

--ARGUABLY THE
FOREFATHER OF
ALL SUPER TEAMS
SINCE THEIR
INCEPTION...

...EVEN CAPTAIN
BRIAN AND
MEGGAN ARE
SUITABLY
IMPRESSED.

AT THAT MOMENT, IN
ANOTHER HEMISPHERE...

...THE ONE WHICH PLAYS
HOST TO THE COUNTRY
OF ENGLAND...

WEEEACH!

--ANOTHER OF
EXCALIBUR'S
MEMBERS HAS
NO PROBLEM
VOICING HER
FEELINGS...

...ON A DIFFERENT
WAVELLENGTH ENTIRELY.

I MEAN --

--YEEEACH!

I MUST
STOP REVERTING TO
MY NATIVE TONGUE
IN TIMES OF
STRESS!

CERISE! WHAT
HAPPENED?!

KURTJ!

I
TELEPORTED
THE INSTANT
I HEARD YOUR
CRY...

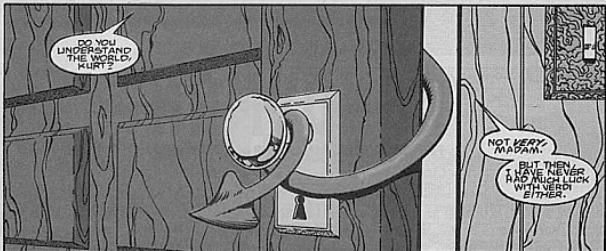
...WHAT IS
PROGESS?!

IT IS THIS--THIS--
LIPSTICK!

IT TASTES
HORRIBLE!

! SNICKERE

I DO NOT
DOUBT THAT,
MADAM...







WHILE THE PROBLEM OF TOXIC WASTE HAS YET TO IMPACT UPON OUR SACRED LAND, WE THE RESPECT WAKANDA--

--REALIZE THE PART THAT OUR ABUNDANCE OF VIBRANIUM MIGHT PLAY IN THE ERADICATION OF A CONDITION THAT THREATENS THE ENTIRE GLOBAL VILLAGE.

TO THIS END AN INFORMAL INTERNATIONAL OPERATION MAY BE THE FIRST STEP TO A BETTER TOMORROW FOR ALL THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD.



I'D LIKE TO THANK BRADDOCK ENTERPRISES FOR INITIATING THE CREATION OF SELF-REPAIRING WASTE CONTAINMENT.

AHHH, JAMIE-- THE MYSTERIES OF YOUR MIND NEVER BY CASE TO AMAZE.



OF COURSE, STARK INTERNATIONAL--

--PLAYED A VITAL PART IN OUR SUCCESS WITH ITS GENEROUS DONATION OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN TECHNOLOGY.



AND FINALLY, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT--REP. RESENTED TODAY BY CAPTAIN AMERICA--

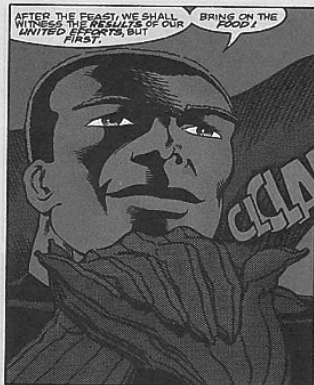
--WAS GRACIOUS ENOUGH TO SUPPLY SEVERAL TONS OF RAW TOXIC WASTE FOR OUR STUDIES.

WE WERE... HAPPY... TO DO IT.

LOOK AT HIM-- WAKANDA'S FIRST CITIZEN CATERING TO THE WHIMS AND WANTS OF OUR LANDERS!

ENJOY YOUR ROLE AS COURT JESTER, T'CHALLA--

--FOR SOON A NEW KING WILL SIT UPON THE THRONE!



AFTER THE FEAST, WE SHALL
WITNESS THE RESULTS OF OUR
UNITED EFFORTS, BUT
FIRST.

BRING ON THE
FOOD!



PIZZA?
I WAS
EXPECTING
A RARE
AFRICAN
DELICACY.

--THE
BLACK PANTHER
IS NOTHING IF NOT
THE PERFECT HOST.
YES, WELL...



EAT AND DRINK UNTIL
YOU ARE SATIATED, MY
GUESTS.

THERE IS MORE THAN
ENOUGH FOOD, BEVER-
AGES AND CEREMONIAL
BLESSINGS FOR ALL.

TAP

"THAT WOODEN
HEADED GUY IS
CUTE," BRIAN."



HE'S A DANCING ICON, MEGGAN--NO
DOUBT A RESPECTED AND REVERED
FIGURE IN WAKANDAN
MYTHOLOGY.

MAYBE...

...BUT I
STILL THINK
IT'S CUTE.

NOT VERY
FAR AWAY...

"...A CONTENT
AND DOZING
KITTY..."

ZZZPBPRZZH

"...IS UNABLE TO APPRECIATE
THE BEAUTY OF THIS
TROPICAL SUNSET."

YIIIEE
EE!

WHA--?

THEN AGAIN...

EEEEE!

MY HEAD--
IT FEELS AS IF IT IS
SPLITTING IN TWO!

ISN'T THERE
SOMETHING WE
CAN DO?

NOT UNTIL
WE KNOW WHAT IS
WRONG--THE MEDICS
WILL BE HERE IN A
MOMENT!



TEARING FREE
FROM ITS NATURAL
CASING?



TRANSFORMING
INTO SOMETHING
NOT QUITE.



"DANCER" OUT-
LANDER!

I ASSURE YOU I AM
MUCH MORE THAN A
DANCER!

I AM THE LIVING
EMBODIMENT OF
THE WAKANDAN
PEOPLE AS THEY
SHOULD BE!

U'MBAYA-- IS
THAT YOU?

YOU KNOW THIS
MAN?



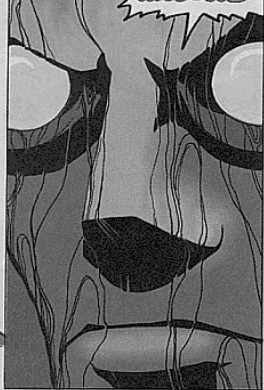
PURE.
PRIMAL.

PREPARED TO
WREST OUR
COUNTRY FROM
THE GRIP OF THE
TWENTIETH
CENTURY
WORLD.

HE MAY HAVE KNOWN
ME AS THE WIDE-EYED
GRADUATE STUDENT
I ONCE WAS--

--BUT HE
AND THE REST
OF THE WORLD
HAS YET TO
MEET...

...ICON!





SUDDENLY...

QUAZZT

KCHINK

"KURT--
THAT
WOMAN...?"

"STARTED
BY A
MYSTERIOUS
BLAST, JA..."

EEEE

--BUT FEAR
NOT!

THERE WAS A TIME
WHEN RESCUING
BEAUTIFUL--IF
MISGUIDED--
WOMEN WAS MY
SPECIALTY!

TH-THANK
YOU.

NIGHTCRAWLER-- THAT
ENERGY ASSAULT CAME
FROM ABOVE!

SO I SEE!
CERISE...

...SO I
SEE.

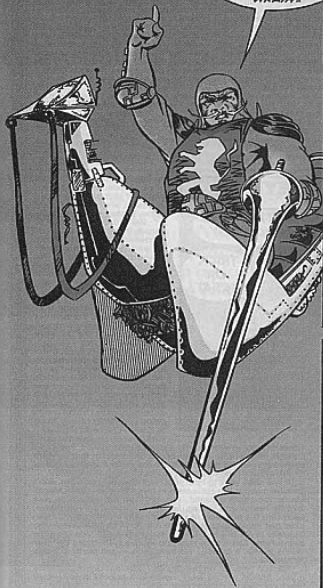
HEAR
ME, NEATHENS
WIZARDS AND SERPENTS
OF SIN--

-- FOR YOUR DASTARDLY
DEEDS ARE PAST.

A HOLY
ENDRAGON IS NOW TO
BEGIN, AND VIRTUE
SHALL TRIUMPH
AT LAST!

NO LONGER
SHALL GREED AND
AVARICE AND THE
BROOKINGS OF
HUMAN LIFE BE
TOLERATED UPON
THESE SHORES, LORD
CHAMBERLAIN.

KNOW THAT
IF YOU STAY IN
ENGLAND, YOU SHALL
INCUR MY
WRATH!



I'LL BE GONE BY
DAWN.

WHAAP... AT LEAST
SOMETHING GOOD
HAS COME OF
THIS.

DO
YOU HAVE A
NAME, SIR...?

FOR NOW AND
FOREVER, I
AM...

--THE
KNIGHT
ERRANT!

AND WOE TO
THE WICKED...

... FOR THE
GAUNTLET HAS
BEEN HURLED!

WE ARE GOING AFTER
HIM! BUT IS HE NOT
ONE OF US? A
"HERO"?

WHILE HIS
HEART SEEMS TO
BE IN THE RIGHT
PLACE...

... HIS
METHODS WARRANT
SCRUTINY

BAMF

DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE
ME AS OTHERS HAVE
BEFORE YOU!

YES, I AM
EXCEPTIONALLY
UGLY...

...BUT I AM ALSO
UNNATURALLY
POWERFUL!

B-BRIANZ:

LET
HER GO,
ICON!

SWOOP

IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO
WORRY ABOUT MAINTAINING MY
SECRET IDENTITY, THIS MAN
WOULD BE KINDLING BY NOW!

EASY, SON, THIS KIND
OF THING IS BETTER
LEFT TO
PROFESSIONALS.

BUT, I

I REALIZE THAT.

THE CAPTAIN IS
CORRECT-- THIS
IS NOT THE
PLACE FOR
BYSTANDERS!

TEX

THIS I.M.C. *
SHOULD INSURE THEIR
SAFETY FOR THE
MOMENT!

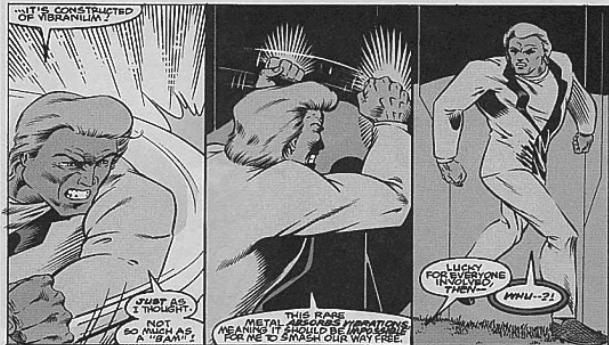
* INSTANT VIBRANTLY SOUNDMENT.
--BOTH SPARK RITTY.

SP-TANG

GOOD WORK,
T'CHALLA!

E-FOOLS!
THIS CHANGES
NOTHING.

ER
HARDLY
ANYTHING.



TAKE ANOTHER
STEP!!

AND I WILL ORDER MY
MIND-CONTROLLED MINDS
TO DESTROY THEIR WOODEN
BODIES BY ATTACKING
YOU!

THEIR BLOOD-- THEIR
SPLINTERS-- WILL BE
ON YOUR HANDS.

THERE'S A GRAPHIC
THOUGHT I COULD HAVE
DONE WITHOUT.

THEY'RE
YOUR PEOPLE,
PANTHER-- THIS
IS YOUR
CALL.

I DO
NOT SEE
WHERE I HAVE
A CHOICE.

ON THE CONTRARY,
T'CHALLA.

YOU CAN ABDICATE THE
THRONE OF WAKANDA
TO ME--

-- OR STAND BY
AND WATCH YOUR
PEOPLE DIE!

NEITHER ONE IS A VIABLE
OPTION, ICON--NOT WHILE
THE NEW

EXCALIBUR

IS HERE TO STOP YOU!

THIS IS
INTOLERABLE!

ANY OTHER
DAY OF THE WEEK,
THERE'S ONE
CONTINUED
ADVENTURER
IN ALL OF
AFRICA

I DECIDE
TO OVERTHROW
THE GOVERNMENT,
AND SUDDENLY
WAKANDA TURNS
INTO A HAVEN FOR
SUPER HEROES.

IN TWO
WEEKS!

AAA BRADDOCK AAAAAA
OF THE
JUNGLE
REALLY.







"KAY, SO THE PET DRAGON
IS A LITTLE WONKY..."

"... BUT THE GIRL
SEEMS HARMLESS
ENOUGH."

RUSTLE

"I WILL
LET HER LIVE."

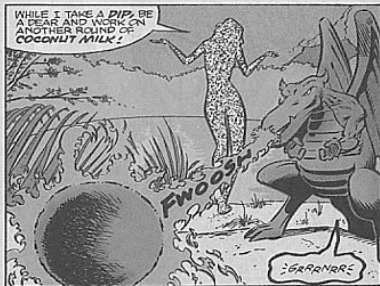


DO YOU?



NAAAAHHHH!

GUESS
I'M JUST NOT
USED TO WEST AND
WENAXATION



WHILE I TAKE A DIP, BE
A DEAR AND WORK ON
ANOTHER ROUND OF
COCONUT MILK!

Fwoosh

GRARRRR